

THE COMMONWEALTH

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Tuesday, March 27, 1917

CHILDHOOD ADVANCED

How often has the thought come to
mothers and fathers of the growing
youth and girl, "oh, my child, she has
grown up so suddenly, I have lost her".
This comes from the fact that the
parent suddenly becomes aware of the
almost immediate transformation from
childhood to youthhood, and the loving
fingering, the tender patting care of the
mother towards the child is almost out
of place when she realizes that her
"baby" is almost grown.

The time always seems short to the
mother from baby hood to childhood,
and shorter still to youthhood, when
she must give up much of her fondling
mothering, at which time she feels that
her child is lost to her.

Take the girl for instance, the moth-
er's delight is to make her a dainty
little baby doll, and nothing pleases
the mother more than to have her
friends speak of her baby in the follow-
ing terms: "oh, how pretty she is,"
or "how sweet," or "you dress her so
beautifully." Then as she grows to
schoolhood days comes the further
pleasure to the mother to make her lit-
tle daughter look as well or better, than
her neighbors, and as time goes by the
mother fusses over her child, always
thinking of her as "the baby," and so
wrapped up is she in her enjoyment in
mothering the little one that she does
not realize that her girl is growing
up, except that frocks have to be leng-
thened, until the sad awakening comes,
and she finds that her girl, her baby
girl, has the boys already in mind.

So it is, too, with the mother and
her boy. She will ever look upon him
as her baby, though oftentimes in or-
der to draw attention to his preco-
ciousness, she will laughingly remark
to her friends "He's getting so big",
but this hardly ever refers to age,
until the great awakening comes, and
she feels she can never again fondle
him as she always had so much pleas-
ure in doing, and then and there her
heart fails her, she goes to her room
sobbing that the baby has gone forev-
er.

Is it that our children of today are
maturing at an earlier age than former
generations, or is it that the rapid pro-
gress of the age has made these young-
sters acquire habits and ways in ad-
vance of their years?

It certainly seems, in looking back-
ward, that the child of fifteen today is
as forward as those of eighteen and
nineteen in the past generation, and it
is doubtful whether this early progress
in assuming the youth's prerogatives,
while in childhood's years, is good for
the child itself.

So far as the mother is concerned
it will always be a regret and dissa-
pointment, and, for the child, it may
not be altogether wise. There is no age
so thoroughly free from care as the
school days of the boy and girl, and
this should be fostered as long as pos-
sible, for the distractions and anxieties
of life come soon enough without ad-
vancing them into the childhood days.

It is then a serious and necessary
question for all mothers and fathers to
solve as to whether it is wise, and bene-
ficial, to the child's future welfare, to
allow them to advance into the social
life of the young man and young wo-
man while they are still in their early
teens.

Twenty years ago the boy of fifteen,
and the girl of same, or even older,
was not allowed to entertain com-
pany except at long intervals, when,
they were entertained under
intendence of grown up folks.
child free from such regula-
the streets until ten o'clock
sometimes later, unaccompan-
y but children of their same
the parents seem to think it
ght, but is it?

responsibilities of life's problems
to us all, and there
others who would
from many of
themselves

A FEW DAYS AGO he was Czar of Russia, autocrat of all he
surveyed. Now he is just plain Nicholas Romanoff, shaking in his
boots for fear they will not leave him even his worthless life. In
time, perhaps, he may degenerate into "Old Nick," which, forsooth,
might be quite appropriate as any name he could bear.

IF OUR FOREFATHERS could come back to earth they
would want to get right off again. This is no place for them. High
prices would bankrupt them, leg shows would blind them, political
rottenness would stagger them, and the greed of gold would nauseate
them. No, this is no place for our forefathers, good honest souls
that they were.

ONE BY ONE our delusions are shattered. We used to hear
the sage advice of the economist tell us to "eat dried apples for
breakfast, drink water for dinner, and swell up for supper." But
the impossibility of any economy in the menu can be seen when we
remember that apples are five cents each. Economy! Fortunately
the fellow who coined that word is dead, and has no means of know-
ing what a delusion it is today.

IT NOW TRANSPIRES that while Count Von Bernstorff was
shedding tears over the agony of parting from his good American
friends, his fellow conspirators were as busy as bees in Mexico, get-
ting control of the finances of that unhappy country and putting its
munitions plant on a firm basis. A few thoughtful people foresaw
some move of the kind, but as often as they opened their mouths in
warning they were met with the parrot-like cry "jingo"—the last
defense of an indefensible position. Now we will pay the price of
our folly.

WE NOTE, though, that some people who get out on the street
and bellow loudest for civic improvement are the ones who could
best put in their time cleaning up their own back yards. We do not
want to disparage the preaching of civic improvement—far from it.
But we do want to advocate practicing before preaching. The indo-
lent and indifferent man sits in his own rubbish and tells his neigh-
bor what to do, while the energetic and prideful man goes ahead and
does it and thinks in his mind what a worthless cuss the constitution-
ally "tired" one is. By the law of human nature you must be one or
the other. Which looks best to you? Which IS best for the com-
munity?

DON'T FORGET to "clean up and paint up," and while you
are about it, stay up. In other words, don't clean up your place in
the spring—giving it the once over—and then expect it to remain
fresh and attractive the rest of your natural life. You clean up to-
day, and tomorrow there will be something else to pick up. If you
leave it, and keep on leaving accumulations from day to day, it is
only a question of a few weeks when "that neglected appearance"
is in evidence wherever you look. And that is bad for this town. It
is bad for the health and the pocketbooks of the town. It is bad
every way you look at it. But five minutes a day will change all of
this. It will keep your place a bower of neatness and beauty, and it
will instill a pride and contentment in your heart that will make you
feel like another person. Try it. You will feel better, and your place
will look even more so.

An Unscriptual Doctrine

War is at our door, and this fact impels us to remark that
those extremely pious pacifists who look with such horror upon it,
and who regard the word Soldier as synonymous with Satan, should
read their Bible a little more understandingly.

Nowhere within its covers is the Christian compared to the
mollycoddle or the milkop; but always to the brave and trained sol-
dier. In fact, from the beginning to end of the Scriptures the effi-
cient servant of the Most High is not only likened to a soldier, but
is declared to be a soldier of the Lord.

Even Moses, the type and pattern of meekness, trained and
disciplined an army—that later, under command of his lieutenant,
Joshua, conquered a great people and won a home for a nation.

The peace-at-any-price and swat-the-other-cheek pacifist will
have to rewrite the Scriptures before he can reconcile his policies
with the plain word of God Almighty Himself.

THE WHATCHAMA COLUMN (By George Martin) THIS IS AWFUL

Somebody with nothing better to do
has invented Chinese shorthand.

Chinese Shorthand! Can you imagine
it! And just look at the Chinese
language already. "Posterity should be
considered before a thing like this is
done. Look ahead ten or twelve cen-
turies. Think what an orgy the arch-
aeologists will have with the shorthand
inscriptions they find in the ruins of
Hong Kong.

Look at the shorthand mysteries that
have been wished on this generation by
the stone-chipping. Egyptian stenogra-
phers. Look at the hieroglyphics the
Greeks and the Romans cooked up and
left lying around.

Chinese shorthand certainly will be
ghostly for posterity.

MR. RIDDICK ON MOTOR TRUCKS

In speaking of motor transportation
and motor truck construction, Mr. N.
A. Riddick of the Riddick Motor Car
Co., distributors of the International
Motor Truck in Eastern North Carolina,
said:

"No motor truck is better than its
motor or more efficient than its final
drive. These two units deserve the
careful consideration of every prospec-
tive motor truck purchaser, because up-
on these two points depends the per-
formance of the complete truck. It is
a reasonable conclusion that the motor
truck manufacturer that builds these
two units well, can be depended upon
to maintain the same high standard of
attention in the remainder of the

"The unstinted praise of the inter-
national Motor Trucks by their owners
all over the country is the best evi-
dence we can offer that they are secur-
ing the class of service that business
men demand in their motor hauling and
delivery work.

"Time and again we have received
letters from owners of International
Motor Trucks telling us what a wonder
the International Motor is and how it
needs little attention aside the supply-
ing oil and fuel.

"At the same time, a good motor
in itself is not enough to make a good
motor truck. To have an efficient and
endurable truck, the power of that
motor must be converted into ton miles
capacity, and here is where the Inter-
national internal gear drive rear axle
proves its efficiency over other makes.

"The International rear axle is the
unit that converts the wonderful effi-
ciency of the International Motor in-
to hauling and delivery service of the
kind that business men want and ap-
preciate. It is for this reason that
business men want an International
Motor Truck, you will find an owner
that speaks well of his investment,"
wherever you find an intermediate
Motor Truck, you will find an owner
that speaks well of his investment.

COMPARATIVE STATEMENT OF STATEMENT OF COTTON GIN- NED IN NEARBY COUNTIES IN 1916 AND 1915

The report of cotton ginned in North
Carolina up to March 20th., shows that
the total of 1916 crop so far ginned has
been 693,382 bales as compared with
737,354 bales in 1915, but the number of
bales ginned contiguous to this centre
has been larger in 1916 than during

the previous year. We append the
comparative statement of the two
years.

| County | 1916 | 1915 |
|-----------|--------|--------|
| Edgecombe | 28,869 | 27,175 |
| Halifax | 30,940 | 26,545 |
| Nash | 26,067 | 25,924 |
| Pitt | 25,076 | 24,396 |
| Wilson | 23,958 | 22,373 |
| Franklin | 13,276 | 12,418 |
| Bertie | 13,001 | 10,223 |
| Warren | 11,356 | 9,020 |
| Martin | 10,502 | 8,997 |

HERE'S SOME GOOD NEWS FOR LADIES ONLY

LONDON, March 4.—(By Mail)—
Corset specialists have decided on the
styles and shapes for the spring fash-
ions. Waists will be more strictly nat-
ural than in past seasons and busts
lower. Tricot and coutil will be used
in preference to other fabrics this year
the former being the favorite.

UMBRELLA SMITH ESCAPES FROM JAIL

A jail delivery was made during Sat-
urday night when someone broke the
padlock of the lock-up and let out Jo-
seph Umbrella) Smith, who had been
arrested for escaping from the county
farm that day.

Everyone for miles around knows this
unique character, known to most peo-
ple as Umbrella Smith, as he was a
mender of the umbrellas, and many a
lady of this community has allowed this
man to sit on the steps of her house
while he fastened the ribs to a delap-
idated bumbushoot.

Last fall Smith, being somewhat low
in funds discovered an easy way to re-
coup his fortunes by breaking into a
store in Robeson county, but alas, the
wisest of us fail in accomplishment
of our desires, and so with Smith, for
the fly cop came around and nabbed
the offender and transferred him to the
lock-up from whence he was taken in
December last before the judge, who
seeing the distressful condition of the
man, had mercy upon him, and put him
where he could do no harm for the next
three years, the convict camp.

The soft job of being cook to the
convicts was allotted to Smith, and he
should have been happy, as he had the
pick of the choicest morsels from the
prison fare, but the great white way
of Scotland Neck pointed a beckoning
finger and Smith, before the break of
day, at four o'clock Saturday morning
climbed the picket fence and hiked for
home.

Post haste came the guards inquiring
of Chief of Police Johnson the where-
abouts of Smith, and knowing the haunts
of the wanted man, for whom
twenty five large samoleons were of-
fered directed the guards to wait at
the trestle until the man came along.

Somehow Smith evaded the guards,
crossed the trestle and knocked at his
old abiding place, the Main Street Ho-
tel, just as the clock was striking the
hour of ten, and though accorded a wel-
come by his friends, his joy was not
for long, for the strong arm of the law
followed, and Smith was quickly trans-
ferred to the lock-up where a nice new
mattress, and one or two quilts were
found to make the man easy before be-
ing taken back to the convict camp.

Up to near the midnight hour a
friend of the incarcerated man was
seen speaking to him from without the
dungeon, and this was the last that
was known until the morning when it
was found that the padlock of the lock-
up had been broken and the man had
gone.

So far as our city fathers are con-
cerned no blame attaches to them as
the man was handed over to the con-
vict guards as soon as he was captured,
but they asked that he be put into the
lock-up until the morning, instead of
taking him back to camp that night,
and so the responsibility rests with them.

FOR RENT.—A LARGE STORE ON
Mill Street, East Scotland Neck. Op-
posite Scotland Neck Cotton Mill.
For further information apply to
Mrs. E. M. Lowe. 3-23-4t.

LET ME PLOW YOUR GARDEN, I
HAVE A QUIET MULE ALSO
WAGON, PLOWS, ETC. FOR GAR-
DEN WORK, SEE ME OR PHONE
BOWERS & CO., PHONE 16. 3-27 2t
MINER SMITH.

IT WILL BE MY STORE THAT WILL DO IT

When better groceries are sold in Scot-
land Neck my store will sell them.
When better service is given my store
will give it. When a larger grocery
business is done my store will do it.
When improvements can possibly be
made, I will make them. In point of
sales no exclusive grocery store in this
section has equaled mine. Right here,
isn't it worth considering that people,
who are independent and can trade
where they please, see fit to continually
give me their patronage? It does seem
that no argument is needed. No one
dares to deny that my business is far in
excess of ANY grocery business that
Scotland Neck has EVER had. Is it
because of what people say? What they
say helps, of course, but what they DO
causes me to increase my delivery force.
What they DO causes me to increase the
number of phones in my store. What
they DO causes my freight and express
receipt to far exceed those of any other
grocery store in this section. What they
DO causes my clerks and employees to
ask for an early closing hour. And what
they DO causes me the deepest of gratitude

Think it over and do your trading where your friends
do theirs. Everything in Fancy Groceries of the Highest
Quality.

CLEE VAUGHAN

Largest Retail Grocery Business in Halifax County



THE place where most of the housework
is done is worthy the best and most con-
venient furniture.

Our kitchen furniture is as complete
as anyone could desire and is a
delight to any up-to-date housewife.

This week we are offering a \$30
Kitchen Cabinet for \$18 spot cash.
To get this bargain you must act
quick, as we are offering only one
at this figure.



EASTER STYLES IN FINE FOOTWEAR

Oxfords that you'll enjoy wearing, because they fit, they are stylish, and they
are the best values to be had at \$4.00 to \$6.50.

RAY BOYETTE

THE HABERDASHER

Sometimes a man comes along we can't possibly please, we satisfy him, how-
ever by giving him his money back,